

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3314

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Appalachian Regional Commission to carry out a program of outreach for veterans who reside in Appalachia, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 5, 2010

Mr. BROWN of Ohio introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Appalachian Regional Commission to carry out a program of outreach for veterans who reside in Appalachia, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. OUTREACH FOR VETERANS WHO RESIDE IN AP-**
4 **PALACHIA.**

5 (a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Vet-
6 erans Affairs and the Appalachian Regional Commission
7 shall jointly carry out a program of outreach to veterans

1 who reside in the Appalachian region for the purpose de-
2 scribed in subsection (b).

3 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose described in this sub-
4 section is to increase the following:

5 (1) The access and use by veterans of Federal,
6 State, and local programs providing compensation
7 and other benefits for service in the Armed Forces.

8 (2) Awareness of such programs by veterans
9 who reside in the Appalachian region and their eligi-
10 bility for such programs.

11 (c) PROJECTS.—

12 (1) DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—In
13 carrying out the program required by subsection (a),
14 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may enter into
15 agreements with other Federal and State agencies to
16 carry out projects under the jurisdiction of such
17 agencies to further the purpose described in sub-
18 section (b).

19 (2) APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION.—In
20 carrying out the program required by subsection (a),
21 the Appalachian Regional Commission may provide
22 technical assistance, award grants, enter into con-
23 tracts, or otherwise provide amounts to persons or
24 entities in the Appalachian region for projects and
25 activities that—

1 (A) increase outreach to, awareness by,
2 and use by veterans of programs described in
3 subsection (b)(1);

4 (B) provide incentives for State and local
5 governments and veterans service organizations
6 to assist veterans in utilizing facilities and re-
7 sources available to veterans through the De-
8 partment of Veterans Affairs;

9 (C) provide incentives for State and local
10 governments and veterans service organizations
11 to assist veterans in utilizing resources available
12 through government and veterans service orga-
13 nizations for veterans;

14 (D) educate communities and State and
15 local governments about the employment rights
16 of veterans, including the employment and re-
17 employment of members of the uniformed serv-
18 ices under chapter 43 of title 38, United States
19 Code;

20 (E) provide technical assistance to busi-
21 nesses owned by veterans; and

22 (F) encourage and assist nonprofit organi-
23 zations, businesses, and institutions of higher
24 education to carry out programs of assistance
25 designed for veterans.

1 (d) INFORMATION, ADVICE, AND TECHNICAL ASSIST-
 2 ANCE.—In carrying out the program required by sub-
 3 section (a), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Ap-
 4 palachian Regional Commission may provide, or contract
 5 with public or private organizations to provide, informa-
 6 tion, advice, and technical assistance to nonprofit organi-
 7 zations that provide services to communities in the Appa-
 8 lachian region in order to increase the number of veterans
 9 receiving such services in the Appalachian region.

10 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) APPALACHIAN REGION.—The term “Appa-
 12 lachian region” has the meaning given the term in
 13 section 14102(a) of title 40, United States Code.

14 (2) VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION.—The
 15 term “veterans service organization” means any or-
 16 ganization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans
 17 Affairs for the representation of veterans under sec-
 18 tion 5902 of title 38, United States Code.

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